

Message Text

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ORIGIN HA-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUMJKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE 4618

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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FOLLOWING REPEAT HONG KONG 8142 ACTION SECSTATE INFO GENEVA
BANGKOK JUNE 27

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 8142

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: NEW 25,000 INDOCHINA PAROLE PROGRAM

1. HONG KONG GOVT (HKG) IS CONCERNED ABOUT LARGE NUMBER OF
RECENT BOAT ARRIVALS (796 BETWEEN PERIOD JUNE 1 - 27) AND
TOTAL PRESENT BOAT REFUGEE POPULATION OF 1094. IMMIGRATION
DEPT HAS ASKED US NUMBER OCCASIONS WHEN NEW PROGRAM WILL
BE IMPLEMENTED AND IF THERE IS ANY WAY THAT U.S. PROCESSING
CAN BE EXPEDITED. WE HAVE REPLIED THAT WE ARE WAITING FOR
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IMPLEMENTATION CABLE WHICH WE HOPE WILL BE RECEIVED SHORTLY.

2. IN FACT, PROCESSING OF BOAT REFUGEE ARRIVALS HAS BEEN SLOWED
BY TRANSFER OF UNHCR PROCESSING FROM ICEM HONG KONG TO SUB-ROSA
UNHCR OFFICE. CARPENTER SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED LAST WEEK TO
INITIATE THAT OFFICE, BUT IMMIGRATION DEPT WAS TOLD WHEN
IT ASKED SAMPATKUMAR ABOUT CARPENTER'S WHEREABOUTS THAT HE

WILL NOW ARRIVE END THIS WEEK. LOCAL PERSON WAS HIRED AND
AND STARTED ON DUTY, BUT HAS DONE LITTLE SINCE HE HAS
NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM UNHCR. THERE ARE NOW 575 REFUGEES
HERE (INCLUDING 31 ARRIVALS YESTERDAY) FOR WHOM UNHCR
BIO FORMS HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED.

3. IN ORDER SHOW SOME SEMBLANCE OF MOVEMENT, WE HAVE PRESENTED
FORMS ON 275 REFUGEES TO INS HONG KONG FOR INTERVIEW.
AT SAME TIME, WE COMPLETED ACVA FORMS AND SENT THEM
ALONG WITH UNHCR FORMS TO ACVA TO INITIATE SPONSORSHIP
SEARCH. ACVA ES LOCATED SPONSORS FOR 26 CASES (43 PERSONS)
WHO HAVE NOT BEEN INTERVIEWED BY INS HONG KONG DUE TO
LACK OF NUMBERS.

4. REQUEST DEPT ADVISE US IF WE SHOULD INFORM ACVA ABOUT
THESE 26 CASES AND IF WE SHOULD REQUEST ACVA TO CEASE
SPONSORSHIP SEARCH ON OTHER CASES SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE OF
INS INTERVIEW.

5. WE HOPE THAT WHEN PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED INS HONG KONG WILL
BE ABLE TO USE CONDITIONAL ENTRY NUMBERS FOR SOME CASES.
IF HONG KONG ALLOTMENT UNDER NEW PROGRAM IS RELATIVELY
SMALL AND IF CONDITIONAL ENTRY NUMBERS CANNOT BE USED,
HKG WILL BE MOST CONCERNED SINCE IT WILL MEAN BUILD
UP OF REFUGEE BOAT CASES HERE. CARPENTER WILL BE REQUESTED
BY HKG TO PRESS INTERNATIONALIZATION, BUT NO ONE IS
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OPTIMISTIC THAT HE WILL BE ABLE ACHIEVE MUCH IN THAT
REGARD.

6. UNLESS SAMPATKUMAR WAS ABLE OBTAIN NEW FACILITIES ON
CHEAPER BASIS THAN PREVIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS, PRESENT BOAT
REFUGEE POPULATION HERE WILL COST UNHCR APPROXIMATELY
\$250,000 MONTHLY FOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE.
SHOESMITH.
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Message Attributes

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